



A Blueprint for Action

April 2007-September 2008

Our Mission: We build a culture of service by providing vision and resources to strengthen communities through volunteerism

Our Message: Changing lives ... through a year of service (AmeriCorps)
... by connecting students with service (Learn and Serve)
... two at a time (Mentor Michigan)
... by recognizing heroes (GSA)
... by engaging people in service (MCSC)

The Michigan Community Service Commission has identified the strategies below to achieve the three goals developed from our mission statement. Specific activities are connected with each strategy and will engage our commissioners, staff, grantees, and partners in working together to build stronger communities.

Provide Vision

We provide vision and leadership for the field of volunteering and service.

- **Support and promote** volunteering and service by all people.
- **Position the MCSC as an expert** in volunteering, service-learning, and mentoring.
- **Guide** the work of the MCSC programs, partners, and initiatives.
- **Connect** the public, private, and nonprofit sectors.
- **Recognize** programs and volunteers throughout the state.

Provide Resources

We secure and deliver resources to expand programming and excellence in volunteering and service.

- Secure and expand **diversified funding** for AmeriCorps, Learn and Serve, Mentor Michigan, and other volunteer initiatives.
- **Develop and share resources** with our programs and in the field of volunteering.
- **Select, train, and monitor** grantees.
- Promote **quality program standards** and help programs reach all of them.
- Develop and support **advisory boards and networks** in our program areas.

Strengthen Communities

We focus on the critical community needs identified at the local, state, and national levels.

- **Build and strengthen relationships** between national service programs, nonprofit organizations, and other key stakeholders.
- **Increase the capacity of mentoring programs** to serve children in Michigan; and support the needs of children aging out of foster care and children of incarcerated parents
- Support the work of those solving **critical community needs** such as protecting the environment, promoting literacy, advancing disaster preparedness, and providing affordable housing.
- **Encourage teachers to use service - learning** to prepare students to be fully engaged community members.
- Recruit and engage **baby boomers** in meaningful service.